

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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REQUEST FOR PATENT FEE REFUND			
1 Date of Request: <u>8/16/04</u>		2 Serial/Patent # <u>10/729,393</u>	
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: May 4, 2004

In re application of: Andrew Shum  
Serial No. 10/729,393  
Filed: 12/05/2003  
For: Creep locking retention mechanism (CLIP)

Customer No. 32175  
Confirmation No. 1256  
Examiner: Initial Patent Examination Division

Office of Petitions  
Mail Stop Petitions,  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR KEEPING THE FILING DATE OF 12/05/2003**

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated 04/27/2004, a copy of which is attached hereto, please consider the attached supporting evidence and this petition to accept the filing date of the patent application identified above for consideration on the merits.

A declaration by Judy Barron, the paralegal who filed the instant patent application on 04/27/2004 is attached herewith.

Applicant hereby petitions to have the filing date of 12/05/2003.

Statement of facts: on 12/05/2003 I prepared the above identified utility patent application and gave to our firm's paralegal, Judy Barron for filing. It is our firm's practice to give the finished patent application to a paralegal for filing. The paralegal will then prepare the file for filing including prepare the cover sheet and other papers for a practitioner to sign.

I reviewed the package before filing of the same, and signed at relevant places including the cover sheet. As usual, I saw the return post card included in the package.

Subsequently, we received return post-card with indications thereon that USPTO has received the specifications. Copies of the post cards with USPTO seals affixed thereon are attached herewith as evidence.

Applicant respectfully submits that the return post card clearly shows that USPTO have received the specification including claims and drawings to the instant patent application.

05/11/2004 DENMANU1 00000141 10729393

01 FC:1460

130.00 DP

Adjustment date: 09/08/2004 AKELLEY  
05/11/2004 DENMANU1 00000141 10729393  
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Dated: May 4, 2004